

Dear FCC

I am a current Sirius subscriber, sports fan, music aficionado, and Howard Stern fan. I am wholeheartedly in favor of the XM-Sirius merger, as should anyone that has the future of radio or entertainment media in general, in mind.

Any argument against this merger fails. There is no question that satellite radio is in competition against traditional radio, iPods and other MP3 players, CDs, and even internet radio and TV. These are all forms of competing media. The truth is that satellite radio is the only major form of media in the market in which the availability of content is limited to your choice. If you have an MP3 player, you can listen to any song you want. If you prefer traditional radio, the only thing that restricts your choices is location. When it comes to satellite radio, however, depending on what you wish to hear, your choice is limited. In order to listen to NFL games, you have to have Sirius. For MLB, XM. For NASCAR, Sirius. For Howard Stern, Sirius. If you choose all that content, there is only one choice - subscribe to both at a monthly cost of \$26.

It can hardly be argued that if the merger goes through, that all that content would be available at a price far less than \$26. That is inherently good for the consumer.

Additionally, consolidating the two technologies will serve to reduce costs for both infrastructure and logistics, but also simplify the hardware market, likely increasing the number of companies interested in making radios that can receive satellite signals.

On the whole, there is no downside to this merger. Satellite radio is **HARDLY** a necessity. Post-merger, if the company chose to raise prices, it is more likely that customers will leave than stay. The market will dictate a rational price considering the many forms of media that compete with satellite radio. The FCC should absolutely stand aside and allow the market to dictate the ultimate success or failure of satellite radio on its own merits.

Lastly, rather than standing in the way of this potential merger, the

FCC should be lobbying Congress to reform communications law. The idea that a 1934 law should be dictating policy regarding technology that could not have even been imagined at the time is frightening.

Frankly, considering nobody "owns" the space in which satellites are orbiting, I don't see how the FCC or any government, for that matter, has any jurisdiction over what these companies do or don't do.

Sherard Anderson

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